

XXVIII CONGRESS—Second Session.

SENATE.—WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1865.

A MEMORIAL FROM THE SENATE.

Mr. SUMNER (Mass., U.S. Gen.) presented the general of the Executive Committee of the Board of Delegates of the American Abolitionists, remonstrating against the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, recognizing the Divinity of Christ.

THANKS TO GEN. THOMAS.

Mr. WILSON (Mass., Union) from the Military Committee, reported back the joint resolution of thanks to Maj.-Gen. George H. Thomas, with a recommendation that it pass.

EXCUSES IN THE SERVICE OF MISSOURI.

Mr. BROWN (Mo., Union) introduced a bill entitled Act to continue in the service of the United States certain recruits in the service of the State of Missouri, which was referred to the Military Committee.

COMPLETION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

Mr. FOOTE (Ia., U.S. Rep.) offered a resolution which was referred to the Committee on Printing, providing for the publication of a compilation of the provisions of the Constitution and the laws passed in pursuance thereof at the sessions of the Senate and of Congress.

THE FRIENDLY BILL.

Mr. STEPHENSON gave leave to call in the report of the Committee of Conference on the Freedmen's Bill.

Mr. SCHAFFER (Del., Dem.) raised the point of order that the Committee of Conference had agreed upon a new bill, and he wished to know if that was so.

It had been denied, therefore, that a Committee of Conference could only agree upon what had already been before the Senate.

The question of taking up the Freedmen's Bill was decided in the affirmative. Yes, 70; no, 11.

Mr. STEPHENSON then moved to make the bill the special order for Monday, at 12 o'clock, and it was so ordered.

UNINTENDED TERM OF ENLISTMENT.

Mr. HENDRICKSON (Miss., Union) presented the memorial of the Missouri Legislature, praying that soldiers enlisted for unexpired terms be discharged when their regiments are mustered out.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Mr. WADE (Ohio, U.S. Rep.) from the Committee on the Conduct of the War, presented the testimony of Gen. Grant on the subject of the exchange of prisoners, which was referred to the Committee on Armed Forces.

GEN. GRANT IN THE SENATE.

Lieut. Gen. Grant appeared on the floor of the Senate at 1 o'clock, and was introduced to the members severally.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. WILSON (Mass., Union) introduced a resolution, which was adopted, that the Senate meet on the evening of Tuesday and Wednesday next, for the consideration of executive business. Mr. WILSON said that there were between fourteen and fifteen hundred nominations awaiting the action of the Senate.

THE NEW SENATOR FROM NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Mr. CLARK, of New-Hampshire, (Union) presented the credentials of Hon. AARON J. CHAPIN as a Senator from New-Hampshire for six years from the 1st of March, which were read.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The consideration of the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation Bill was resumed from yesterday. The attention received on the motion to increase the appropriation for traveling expenses of the United States Judges of California from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

On motion of Mr. SHIRMAN it was voted at \$2,000.

In the course of some remarks on increasing salaries, Mr. SCHAFFER said he had seen Gen. Grant on the first of this month, on the day of his arrival, and it seemed to him (SCHAFFER) that the President had made a great mistake in sending him to that high position, a man who did not know how to "act a general" better than he could not be a Lieutenant General. Why, there was not a Lieutenant of the Home Guard in the State of Delaware that could not keep up higher style than the man whom the President had hitherto selected for Lieutenant-General.

There was not a Lieutenant or Provost-Marshal in the country, nor a Major-General in the army, nor a colonel from west of the Alleghany mountains, but could do better than Gen. Grant. He (SCHAFFER) thought this a fit subject for the consideration of the Senate.

Lengthy.

Mr. HALE of New-Hampshire, (Union) moved an amendment to increase the salaries of all Assistant Secretaries and the Second and Third Assistant Postmasters to \$5,000 from and after the next fiscal year.

Mr. COLLAMORE of Vermont, (Union) demanded in his speech that there was no reason when it would stop. More greenbacks would have to be issued. That was the only way to do it.

The question was decided in the affirmative—yeas 21, nays 16.

YES.—Messrs. Buckwell, Chandler, Converse, Cowles, Day, Hale, Foster, Howe, Hinckley, Howe, Johnson, Lane of Indiana, Nichols, Nye, Powell, Remond, Riley, Stewart, Tracy, and Williamson, No.

Mr. BROWN (Mo., Union) moved a resolution that the Senate go into Executive session. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MEMORIALS FROM THE NEW-YORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Mr. ODELL of New-York (Dem.) presented memorials from the New-York Chamber of Commerce to tax sales on merchandise, to construct a ship canal between Lakes Erie and Ontario, to establish a line of mail steamers to Japan and China from San Francisco. These memorials were all appropriately referred.

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. RICE of Massachusetts (Dem.) rising to a question of privilege, called for an audience with the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Forces, and, saying he voted money into his own pocket, thus perverting his office as a liaison to his political self-interest. This article was coupled with extracts from *The Springfield Republican*, saying Mr. Rice is a paper manufacturer, and voted against the repeal of the duty on paper in order to put money into his own pocket. Mr. Rice said he had been here five or six years, and never before now thought necessary to vindicate himself in the eyes of his associates in the service in which he discharged his public duties, and he did not say to vindicate his right as a member on this floor, and vindicate himself from the foul suspicion in that paper. That article proceeded on the assumption that no member who has an interest in great questions has a right to express his opinion or vote upon them, unless he is entirely independent of them. If he had no interest in questions which arise here he could not represent his constituents, and he claimed the right to protect his own, and the right of the people of Mass. if he did not concur with the interests of a large portion of them.Were there not gentlemen here who are interested in coal and iron and wood, in oil and tallow which these articles take in the process of manufacture, and were there not members here also interested as editors and publishers, in the legislation of Congress? As to so voting as to put money into his own pocket by favoring paper manufacturers or himself, the charge was gratuitous. He had not single dollar invested in any paper mill or the manufacture of paper, directly or indirectly, of whosoever so charges him, that which is utterly and absolutely false. Mr. Rice then caused to be read an article from *The Daily Tribune* of Boston, which anticipated upon the course of *The Evening Post* in attacking the navy, and stating in this connection that one of the publishers of *The Post*, who had held the office of Navy Agent, and against whom four indictments had been found for criminal practices, was now held to bail for trial. *The American* says, if the editors of *The Post* are permitting themselves to be animated by feelings of revenge because their associate in the navy was condemned to death, or, if they say they are India and the Court of Appeal in his case, by holding our naval officers and crews of their just merit, and are therefore defaming the services of these brave men, or attempting to transfer it to others, they commit a fatal mistake. Mr. Rice said he could not believe the article came from the pen of the venerable gentleman who is principal editor of *The Post*, and whose writings have adorned the literature of the country. From whatever source the charge came, he buried it in his bosom with defiance and scorn.Mr. STEPHENS—*The Evening Post* is a newspaper which anticipated upon the course of *The Evening Post* in attacking the navy, and stating in this connection that one of the publishers of *The Post*, who had held the office of Navy Agent, and against whom four indictments had been found for criminal practices, was now held to bail for trial. *The American* says, if the editors of *The Post* are permitting themselves to be animated by feelings of revenge because their associate in the navy was condemned to death, or, if they say they are India and the Court of Appeal in his case, by holding our naval officers and crews of their just merit, and are therefore defaming the services of these brave men, or attempting to transfer it to others, they commit a fatal mistake.Mr. RICE—I do not believe the correspondent of *The Evening Post* in any way, even in the least directly or indirectly, involved in this case.

Mr. STEPHENS—I do not desire to cast aspersions on the paper, which contains such articles as no right to a representative here. I see the newspapers, and especially those of New-York, because so insolent and odious, and abominable, if we dare to say, to differ from their dogmas, that scarcely a day passes in which we are not attacked in a felonious manner by these men. In reference to the gentleman from Massachusetts, I withdraw the resolution.

GEN. GRANT IN THE HALL.

Gen. Grant came into the Hall, and was received with marked honor, as stated in another signature.

THE SMITHSONIAN REPORT.

On motion of Mr. FRANK of New-York (Union) the House took up and passed the Senate's joint resolution appointing Gen. Richard Delafield as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institute.

RESOLUTION OF CENSURE WITHDRAWN.

Mr. GARFIELD of Ohio (U.S. Rep.) withdrew the resolution of the Executive Committee of the Board of Delegates of the American Abolitionists, remonstrating against the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, recognizing the Divinity of Christ.

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THE FRIENDLY BILL.

The Clerk read the following amendment, proposed by the Committee of Ways and Means:

Mines shall pay for every license \$10; every person, firm or company who shall employ others in the business of mining for coal, or gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, tin, manganese, or other minerals, not having a man or two of his own management, shall be required to pay a sum not exceeding 20 cents.

This amends the tax, as now named, \$1 per barrel.

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This amendment was then voted.

The Committee rose to call in the report of the Committee of Conference on the Freedmen's Bill.

Mr. SCHAFFER (Del., Dem.) raised the point of order that the Committee of Conference had agreed upon a new bill, and he wished to know if that was so.

It had been denied, therefore, that a Committee of Conference could only agree upon what had already been before the Senate.

The question of taking up the Freedmen's Bill was decided in the affirmative. Yes, 70; no, 11.

Mr. STEPHENSON then moved to make the bill the special order for Monday, at 12 o'clock, and it was so ordered.

The Committee rose and the House adjourned.

THE TAX BILL.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Amendatory Federal Tax Bill.

A motion was made by Mr. HOLMAN to strike out the provision of 50 cents per barrel on all beer, porter, beer, ale, porter, and other similar fermented liquors.

Messrs. JONES, DALE, KARSON and BROWN supported Mr. HOLMAN's motion, which was agreed to by a vote of 29 to 20.

The House then voted to amend the bill to strike out the provision of 50 cents per barrel on all beer, porter, beer, ale, porter, and other similar fermented liquors.

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